(b) the steps taken by Government to prevent mixing of such harmful intoxicant chemicals with arrack, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The production and sale of country arrack and prevention of mixing of harmful intoxicant chemicals with it are the subject matter of the State Governments/UTs who exercise control through their respective State Laws. The Central Government has no proposal of issuing any directions about the addition of more bitterness in methanol to prevent its mixing with the country arrack.

NPPA Notifications on the WEB Sites

1996. MISS MABEL REBELLO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that NPPA has two web sites on the internet ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that none of the DPCO price notifications are available on these web sites, despite claims to the contrary; and

(c) by when NPPA would start displaying the notifications on the web sites as soon as they are notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) Presently NPPA has only one web site.

(b) and (c) The prices notified by the NPPA are available on the web site under the head "What's new/NPPA News Bulletin". A consolidated list of notified prices of bulk drugs and formulations is also available under the head "Price Notifications". Generally, the notifications are uploaded on the web site of NPPA within two days of notification. However, in a few cases, there may be some delay on account of technical problems.

Viability of M/s SSPL

1997. SHRI JIBON ROY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether BIFR nominee Director on the Board of M/s. SSPL had communicated to BIFR and Government that M/s. SSPL is a viable unit if relief and concessions are extended, in line with UPDPL; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme forwarded by him and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) No such communication has been received by the Government.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Recovery of Excess Amount obtained by Fertilizers Factories

†1998. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have issued notification to recover excess amount obtained by the thirteen owners of the fertilizers factories as retention price from Government;

(b) if so, the total number of fertilizer factories which have misused Government money and the extent of the amount misused;

(c) whether any action is being taken against officers involved in sanctioning crores of rupees every year;

(d) whether the case of refunding of dues to Government stand against any other factory in addition to aforesaid 13 factories; and

(e) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRTRA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. In order to contain the outflow of subsidy and fix the consumption norms at the realistic level, Government has revised the consumption norms of the urea units on interim basis w.e.f. 1-4-2000, based on the actual levels achieved in 1999-2000, or the existing level, whichever is lower. The retention prices have also been revised correspondingly, *ad interim*. The revision has led to reduction in retention prices in respect of some units. Such revision is, however, only an interim arrangement and is subject to the decision of the Government on the policy parameters for VII and VIII pricing periods which will include consumption norms also, and will be effective from 1-7-1997.

(b) and (c) On the basis of the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in 1992, the consumption norms were not revised in the VI Pricing

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.